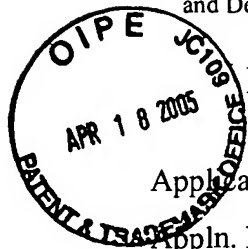


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4/1/05



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jeffrey A. Schumacher et al.

Group Art Unit.: 3682

Appln. No.: 10/663,878

Examiner: ---

Filed: September 16, 2003

Docket No. 790063.94558

For: SEALED CHAIN LINK ASSEMBLY

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

#### PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed please find a copy of a communication from the European Patent Office (EPO) including a PCT International Search Report conducted by the EPO in a counterpart patent application to the one identified above. The document is being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98. A Form PTO-1449 "Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant" is attached which lists the references cited, and a copy of each cited reference is enclosed herewith.

No additional fee is believed to be due for consideration of these documents. However, should a fee be deemed due by the Commissioner, such fee should be charged to Deposit Account No. 17-0055.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 4/1/05

By:

Daniel G. Radler, Reg. No. 43,028  
Quarles & Brady LLP  
411 East Wisconsin Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
(414) 277-5749

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	1	of	2
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/663,878
Filing Date	September 16, 2003
First Named Inventor	Jeffrey A. Schumacher
Art Unit	3682
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	790063.94558

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		DE 140 173 C	4-9-1903	Holmes		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		<b>Complete if Known</b>			
		Application Number	10/663,878		
		Filing Date	September 16, 2003		
		First Named Inventor	Jeffrey A. Schumacher		
		Art Unit	3682		
		Examiner Name			
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	790063.94558

OTHER PRIOR ART–NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		PCT International Search Report	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.  
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